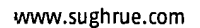




T 202-663-7901  
jmion@sughrue.com



It is assumed that copies of the International Application, the International Search Report, and the International Preliminary Examination Report, will be supplied directly by the International Bureau, but if further copies are needed, the undersigned can easily provide them upon request.



Commissioner for Patents  
 Page 2  
 February 21, 2002

Please see the attached PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT before calculating the filing fee.

The Government filing fee is calculated as follows:

Total claims	5	-	20	=		x	\$18.00	=	\$0.00
Independent claims	1	-	3	=		x	\$84.00	=	\$0.00
Base Fee									\$890.00

<b>TOTAL FILING FEE</b>	\$890.00
<b>Recordation of Assignment</b>	\$ 40.00
<b>TOTAL FEE</b>	<u>\$930.00</u>

Checks for the statutory filing fee of \$890.00 and Assignment recordation fee of \$40.00 are attached. You are also directed and authorized to charge or credit any difference or overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16, 1.17 and 1.492 which may be required during the entire pendency of the application to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. A duplicate copy of this transmittal letter is attached.

Priority is claimed from:

<u>Country</u>	<u>Application No</u>	<u>Filing Date</u>
Germany	199 40 138.1	August 24, 1999

Respectfully submitted,

*John H. Mion*  
 John H. Mion  
 Registration No. 18,879

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC  
 2100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
 Washington, D.C. 20037-3213  
 (202) 663-7901  
 February 21, 2002

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